

CASSP Workshop at Hollister Hills SVRA

April 30 – May 1, 2011

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The California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program (CASSP) and the California State Parks OHMVR Division held a workshop at Hollister Hills SVRA. The objective of the workshop was to train new site stewards and begin a site monitoring program at Hollister Hills SVRA.



CASSP stewards in the historic Vineyard Schoolhouse reviewing laws

Presenters from the Bureau of Land Management, the Indian Canyon Mutsun Band of Costanoan, and Hollister Hills SVRA provided archaeological and historical overviews of the area for CASSP stewards. Thirteen stewards attended the workshop. The participants were given instruction about stewardship ethics, laws and archaeology, and their role in the cultural resources management program of the OHMVR Division.

On Sunday, the stewards participated in a fieldtrip to a few of the cultural resources sites at Hollister Hills SVRA. Stewards visited a historic walnut orchard, prehistoric village site, and the historic Vineyard Schoolhouse.



CASSP stewards in the field at the historic Vineyard Schoolhouse

Of the volunteers who attended the workshop, seven stewards were interested in participating in the CASSP program at Hollister Hills SVRA. In June, OHMVR Division archaeologists and Hollister Hills SVRA staff provided field training for the new stewards. The stewards were given several sites to monitor located throughout the SVRA.



Two CASSP stewards at the Windmill Site, which can only be accessed using an OHV.



Two CASSP stewards discussing cultural resource monitoring forms.



A CASSP steward looking at artifacts located at a prehistoric site.

The stewards have been actively working in the SVRA this summer providing much needed data about the condition of the cultural resources that were recorded during the 2010 Cultural Resource Inventory. The data the stewards collect is imperative for providing baseline information from which preservation and protection measures can be developed.